



**{In Archive} Fw: Another story of how another federal agency uses tools developed by EPA researchers at WED**

**Thomas Fontaine** to: Nathan Schumaker

01/11/2012 02:25 PM

Cc: David Olszyk

Archive: This message is being viewed in an archive.

see below, and expect a follow up from Brian or Maggie

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----- Forwarded by Thomas Fontaine/COR/USEPA/US on 01/11/2012 02:25 PM -----

From: Brian Garges/RTP/USEPA/US  
To: Thomas Fontaine/COR/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Maggie Holley/RTP/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/11/2012 02:05 PM  
Subject: Re: Another story of how another federal agency uses tools developed by EPA researchers at WED

Thanks Tom, We'll follow up with Nathan. :)

Thomas Fontaine

Brian, I wanted to give you a heads up on this so...

01/11/2012 04:54:29 PM

From: Thomas Fontaine/COR/USEPA/US  
To: Brian Garges/RTP/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/11/2012 04:54 PM  
Subject: Another story of how another federal agency uses tools developed by EPA researchers at WED

Brian, I wanted to give you a heads up on this so that we can make hay of it in the near future. There's a white paper being issued by the USFWS that includes WED's Nathan Schumaker as an author and uses his model HEXSIM extensively in developing a recovery plan for the spotted owl, an endangered species that was one focus of the Northwest Forest Plan. Like Don Phillips work on stable isotopes that was used by the DOI to make rulings about grizzlies in Yellowstone National Park, this is another example of where a tool developed for EPA purposes is now recognized by other agencies as a useful tool to solve their problems.

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----- Forwarded by Thomas Fontaine/COR/USEPA/US on 01/11/2012 01:48 PM -----

From: David Olszyk/COR/USEPA/US  
To: Thomas Fontaine/COR/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Nathan Schumaker/COR/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/10/2012 09:18 PM  
Subject: Information on Nathan and USFWS

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Nathan is a member of the US Fish and Wildlife Service modeling team tasked with developing the Obama administration's recovery strategy and critical habitat designation for the northern spotted owl. The recovery strategy has been finished (see <http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/Data/NorthernSpottedOwl/Recovery/>), and the critical habitat rule will be completed soon (it has been put on a fast-track by the White House). A white paper describing the methodology developed by the US FWS modeling team is in the process of being written. This white paper will be placed on the US FWS web site along with the critical habitat rule and related documents. (Unlike the recovery plan, the white paper has attribution to authors, one of whom will be Schumaker.) The recovery strategy was based on work performed using three models, including HexSim (the others were MaxEnt and Zonation). The methodology developed by the US FWS modeling team to design the spotted owl reserves and produce the critical habitat designations rely entirely on HexSim-based simulations and analysis (politics enter later on in the process). Thus Nathan has played a key role throughout the development of this administration's spotted owl recovery plan. Nathan's efforts include contributing to the development, parameterization, running, and analysis of the US FWS / HexSim spotted owl model (which includes barred owls), working closely with species experts, attending scientific and planning meetings, attending many outreach sessions with stakeholders, contributing to the development of the recovery strategy, contributing to the development of the reserve strategies, and contribution to the critical habitat designation. This collaboration between Nathan and the USFWS has produced significant goodwill, and is likely to result in additional inter-agency research and development efforts in the future.